

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10 NSCE-00 RSR-01 RSC-01 /046 W

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TS, US

SUBJECT: BOURGUIBA MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT NIXON

REF: TUNIS 4248

FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY TRANSLATION OF BOURGUIBA LETTER TO
PRESIDENT NIXON MENTIONED REFTEL:

"DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

"I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR LETTER OF MAY 10 KINDLY ENCLOSING FOR
MY INFORMATION -- AND I SINCERELY APPRECIATE YOUR INTENTIONS
IN DOING SO -- A COPY OF YOUR REPORT TO CONGRESS ON AMERICAN
FOREIGN POLICY.

"YOUR SEARCH FOR THE BEST SOLUTIONS TO THE MAJOR PROBLEMS OF
THIS AGE IS DISTINGUISHED BY A LOFTINESS OF VIEW AND A POLICY
OF OPENING NEW PATHS WHICH ARE THOSE OF A COUNTRY PROFOUNDLY
ATTACHED TO THE IDEALS OF PEACE, JUSTICE, LIBERTY AND
COOPERATION.

"INDEED, IF THE WORLD GREETED WITH GREAT JOY THE END OF THE
WAR IN VIETNAM, ACHIEVED THANKS TO UNTIRING AND TENACIOUS
EFFORTS, IT REMAINS NO LESS TRUE THAT ALL WHO HAVE FAITH IN
HUMAN RIGHTS ARE STILL DEVOTED TO ACHIEVING PEACE IN THOSE
PARTS OF THE WORLD WHERE PEACE IS STILL THREATENED; MOST
PARTICULARLY IN THE MIDDLE EAST WHERE A LAMENTABLY DISINTEGRATING
SITUATION THREATENS TO COMPROMISE -- SERIOUSLY AND FOR A LONG
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TIME -- THE HAPPINESS OF HUMAN BEINGS AND THE PROGRESS OF

CIVILIZATION.

"AS YOU WELL KNOW, THERE IS NOTHING CLOSER TO MY HEART THAN BRINGING MY COUNTRY'S CONTRIBUTION TO STRENGTHEN THE CAMP OF THOSE MEN OF GOOD WILL WHO STRIVE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT, IN THIS ANCIENT CRADLE OF CIVILIZATIONS, OF A JUST AND LASTING PEACE AND FOR THE RESOLUTION OF THE GRAVE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM WHICH CONFRONTS THE CONSCIENCE OF THE WORLD.

"IN THANKING YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION, I ASK YOU, DEAR MR. PRESIDENT, TO ACCEPT WITH THE EXPRESSION OF MY FRIENDSHIP THE ASSURANCE OF MY HIGH CONSIDERATION.

"VERY CORDIALLY (HANDWRITTEN),

"BOURGUIBA" (SIGNED).
SEELYE

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